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Bell et al.

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(54) **METHOD OF FRACTURING
SUBTERRANEAN FORMATIONS WITH
CROSSLINKED FLUID**

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This patent is subject to a terminal dis-
claimer.

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continuation-in-part of application No. 12/642,662,
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(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Subterranean formations are subjected to hydraulic fracturing
with an aqueous fracturing fluid having guar or a derivative
thereof, a borate crosslinking agent and proppant. The frac-
turing fluid is prepared in a blender and then pumped into the
wellbore through an entrance site. The apparent viscosity of
the fluid decreases distally from the entrance site such that (i)
the apparent viscosity of the fracturing fluid 100 feet from the
entrance site is less than 10 percent of the apparent viscosity
of the fracturing fluid at the entrance site; (ii) the apparent
viscosity of the fracturing fluid 15 minutes after introduction
into the entrance site is less than 15% of the apparent viscosity
of the fracturing fluid at the entrance site; or (iii) the apparent
viscosity of the fracturing fluid is less than 10 cP within 15
minutes after being introduced through the entrance site.

31 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets

